

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LONDON 07937 191627Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----043758 191629Z /43
O 191555Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6303

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 07937

STADIS////////////////////
EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EGEN, EIVN, ECOSOC, UN
SUBJECT: OECD SUPPORT FOR ILLICIT PAYMENTS AGREEMENT

REF: STATE 127544

1. WE ARE CONCERNED WITH ONE SENTENCE IN VANCE-OWEN LETTER REFTEL, SPECIFICALLY THE LAST PART OF THE SECOND SENTENCE READING "AND THE BRITISH POSITION THROUGHOUT HAS NOT BEEN VERY SUPPORTIVE". THE POINT OF COURSE IS FACTUALLY CORRECT, BUT WE FEEL IT GIVES THE IMPRESSION OF AN ACCUSATION OF BAD FAITH WHICH WE THINK WOULD NOT BE WELL RECEIVED AND WOULD BE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE. BRITIS HAVE MADE QUITE CLEAR THAT THEY DO NOT AGREE WITH US UP AND DOWN THE LINE ON ILLICIT PAYMENTS ISSUES (SPECIFICALLY THEY ARE NOT PREPARED TO MAKE COMMITMENTS WHICH THEY BELIEVE WILL PUT UK FIRMS AT COMPETITIVE DISADVANTAGE OR THAT WILL EXPOSE UK BUSINESSMEN TO CRIMINAL PENALTIES IMPOSED BY COURTS IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES) AND THIS IS WHY THEY HAVE NOT BEEN VERY SUPPORTIVE.

2. ACCORDINGLY WE REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO DELETE THE WORDS QUOTED ABOVE, ENDING THE SENTENCE WITH THE WORD CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 LONDON 07937 191627Z

"SLOW". WE WOULD INSTEAD MAKE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE POINT ORALLY. LAST SENTENCE OF LETTER OF COURSE REQUESTS SUPPORT.

STREATOR

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Draft Date: 19 may 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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